

On May 21, 2008, legislation authored by Rep. Slaughter prohibiting health insurance companies and employers from discriminating based on genetic information became law. The Genetic Non-discrimination Information Act, will prevent health insurers from canceling, denying, refusing to renew, or changing the terms or premiums of coverage based on genetic information. It also would prohibit employers from making hiring, firing, promotion, and other employment-related decision based on genetic factors. This legislation first passed the House of Representatives on April 5th 2008 by a vote of 420-3, it then underwent minor revision and passed unanimously in the Senate, 95-0, on April 24, 2008. On May 1st, 2008, the bill went before the House once again where it passed [414-1](#) and was cleared for the President's signature. On May 21st, 2008, H.R. 493 was signed into law by the President and is now [public law no. 110-233](#)

. Chairwoman Slaughter's remarks on this historic 21st century civil rights legislation can be found [here](#)

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